

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SAN SA 05540 012102Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15  
OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 IO-14 HA-05 /104 W  
-----023557 020631Z /17

R 012026Z DEC 77  
FM AMEOBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6205  
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS  
DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 5540

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PBOR ES HO  
SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTRY BRIEFS DIPLOMATIC CORPS ON MEDIATION  
PROCESS WITH HONDURAS

1. CHIEFS OF ALL DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS WERE INVITED TO  
FOREIGN MINISTRY NOVEMBER 30 FOR 90-MINUTE BRIEFING  
ON STATUS OF BORDER CONTROVERSY WITH HONDURAS AND PROSPECTS  
FOR EFFECTIVE MEDIATION.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER LED OFF DISCUSSION AND WAS FOLLOWED  
BY EXPERT IN BORDER AND FRONTIER MATTERS. PRESENTATION  
WAS ONE IN A SERIES NOW BEING GIVEN TO CABINET, ARMED  
FORCES HIGH COMMAND, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE AUDIENCES.

3. SPEAKERS COVERED GEOGRAPHIC, DEMOGRAPHIC,  
HISTORICAL AND MILITARY FACTORS BEARING UPON THE  
CONTROVERSY. UNDERSTANDABLY, MOST OF THESE POINTED  
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UP GOODWILL CONSISTENTLY DISPLAYED BY EL SALVADOR  
AND LOGIC OF THAT COUNTRY'S POSITION.

4. FOREIGN MINISTER ANNOUNCED THAT HE WOULD FOLLOWING  
DAYS LEAD GOES DELEGATION TO PANAMA FOR EXCHANGE WITH  
HONDURAS OF EACH COUNTRY'S LIST OF EIGHT CANDIDATES  
FOR POSITION OF MEDIATOR, WITH FINAL SELECTION OF

MEDIATOR TO BE ACCOMPLISHED DECEMBER 12 IN SAN JOSE.

5. PERHAPS PRINCIPAL IDEA EMERGING FROM FOREIGN MINISTER'S PRESENTATION WAS HIS SUGGESTION THAT MEDIATOR MIGHT BE UNDERSTANDABLY RELUCTANT COMMIT HIS INTERNATIONAL PRESTIGE TO DEMARCATION OF BORDER BETWEEN EL SALVADOR AND HONDURAS. AS AN ALTERNATIVE, FONMIN APPEARED TO BE SUGGESTING THAT MEDIATOR MIGHT PERFORM A REAL SERVICE BY CONCENTRATING ON AND RESOLVING ALL OTHER ISSUES SUCH AS TRANSIT, INDEMNIZATION, OBSTACLES TO COMMON MARKET, ETC., WHILE LEAVING THORNY PROBLEM OF BORDER DEMARCATION FOR SOME FUTURE GENERATION OF POLITICAL LEADERS NOT DIRECTLY CONNECTED WITH FACTS OR PERIOD OF 1969 HOSTILITIES.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC CORPS, BRIEFINGS, BORDER INCIDENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 01-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 112147  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FOREIGN MINISTRY BRIEFS DIPLOMATIC CORPS ON MEDIATION PROCESS WITH HONDURAS  
**TAGS:** PBOR, ES, HO  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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EO Systematic Review  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009